



Bringing the County Closer to You!

Isiah Leggett, County Executive
Timothy Firestine, Chief Administrative Officer

Catherine Matthews, Director
Arthur Edmunds, UCAB Chair

December 15, 2017

UCAB Quality of Life Committee Meeting
Monday, December 18 7:00pm
Kramer Upcounty Regional Services Center
12900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown

Topic: "Responses to Opioid Use in the County"

*Invited Guests: Health and Human Services; MC Police Department;
and Fire & Rescue Service*

All board and committee meetings are open to the public!

Sign language interpreter services will be provided only upon request with notice as far in advance as possible, but no less than 72 hours prior to the event. If these or other services or aids are needed to participate in this activity, please call 240-777-8040 or email a request to catherine.matthews@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Leggett Pushes Forward on Possible County Lawsuit Against Opioid Manufacturers

This week, County Executive Ike Leggett discussed the decision by Montgomery County to investigate legal action against the manufacturers of opioid products to recover damages incurred by the County. Mr. Leggett was joined by Council President Hans Riemer, County Attorney Marc Hansen, and Dr. Raymond Crowel of Health and Human Services. Mr. Leggett asked for – and the Council approved – the hiring of outside counsel, the firm of Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP, to investigate the culpability of opioid producers and distributors and move to take legal action for reimbursement to the County for taxpayer resources that have been, are, and will be used to respond to the crisis.

See full statement at http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=21657



County Council Elects Hans Riemer as President, Nancy Navarro as Vice President for 2017-18

The Montgomery County Council today unanimously elected Hans Riemer as President and Nancy Navarro as Vice-President of the Council. They will serve one-year terms as officers of the Council. *Read more at* https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=21643



Open Enrollment Extended Until December 22 for Health Coverage!

The enrollment period in Maryland has been extended until December 22, 2017. Enroll by December 22nd for 2018 health and dental plans. You can enroll year-round if you've had a recent life change or you qualify for Medicaid. [Get ready to apply.](#)

County Holiday Schedule for Christmas and New Year's

Montgomery County government will observe the following holiday schedule for the Christmas and New Year's holidays:

County Offices – Closed December 25 and January 1

Libraries – Closed December 24, 25 and January 1

County Liquor stores (DLC) – December 24 and December 31, all DLC stores will open 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Closed December 25 and closed January 1

Recreation – Aquatic, community recreation and senior centers are closed December 25, and January 1. For complete details on facility closures and modified schedules between December 24 and January 1, visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec

Montgomery Parks - For operating schedule, visit www.MontgomeryParks.org

Ride On – Sunday schedule (Riders can access the route [schedule](#)). Ride On services end at 10 p.m. on December 24

Metrorail – Information available at www.wmata.com

Metrobus – Information available at www.wmata.com

TRiPS Commuter Store at Silver Spring Transit Center – Closed December 25 and January 1

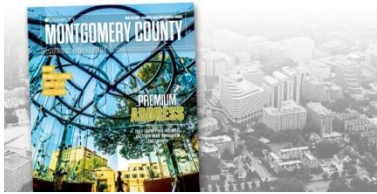
TRiPS Mobile Commuter Store – Closed December 25 and January 1

Refuse/recycling pickup – No collection December 25 and January 1. Collection will be one day later for the week of December 25 and January 1

The Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station – Facility will close at 3 p.m. on December 24 and 31. Closed December 25 and January 1

Parking at public garages, lots, curbside meters – Free

State offices and courts – Closed Monday, December 25 and Monday, January 1



Montgomery County: The Address of Choice

[The 2018 issue of Montgomery County Economic Development](#) is now available, and inside the publication readers will learn why our diverse County of more than one million residents is the address of choice for many leading-edge businesses. The publication touts the County's dynamic economy, highly educated talent pool, robust arts community, great outdoors and proximity to the nation's capital. **Read more, [here](#).**

Montgomery County's Ag Reserve



The Montgomery County Agriculture Reserve encompasses 93,000 acres and includes hundreds of farms and thousands of horses. Jeremy Criss, the director of the [Department of Agriculture](#), talked about the economic impact of those farms, including the booming horticulture business and the equine community, during a recent video interview about farming in the Montgomery County suburbs. (VIDEO CREDIT: [Amber Gerard](#))

- [Watch the video](#)

Gift Outside the Box

Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett, [Department of Environmental Protection's \(DEP\)](#) Acting Director Patty Bubar, Executive Vice President of the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce Barbara Ashe and Director of Montgomery Parks Michael F. Riley has launched the County's "[Gift Outside the Box](#)" holiday campaign. This DEP public awareness campaign aims to help residents make sustainable choices to reduce waste, support local businesses and encourage volunteerism during the holiday season. See details in the [Press Release](#)

Reminder!

Public Forums on Next Year's Operating Budget for the County

- [January 8, Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center](#)
- [January 24, Mid-County Community Recreation Center](#)
- [January 29, BlackRock Center for the Arts](#)
- [January 30, Silver Spring Civic Building](#)
- [January 31, Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center](#)

See [press release](#) for more information.

Health Officials Remind Residents About Flu Prevention; Urge All To Receive Flu Shots

Montgomery County health officials are reminding residents to help prevent the flu by getting a flu shot and by following key health habits.

In addition to getting a flu shot, there are several ways to lower the chance of getting the flu:

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people. If sick, limit contact with others as much as possible to keep from infecting them.
- If you are sick with flu-like illness, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or other necessities.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs spread this way.

To find a location to get a flu shot, go to <https://vaccinefinder.org>.

A message from the Upcounty Regional Office . . .

This will be the last issue for 2017. On behalf of the Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board and my assistant, Linda Cooper, I want to wish you and your families a peaceful and joyous holiday season, and hope that 2018 will be your best year yet!

----- Catherine Matthews, Regional Director



For more News from the Office of the County Executive, visit: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/news>

For other news and meeting agendas, visit:

County Council http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/press_List.aspx?id=01

Planning Board http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/departments/news_releases

Also check out the latest from:

Department of Public Libraries <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library>

Department of Recreation <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/rectmpl.asp?url=/content/rec/index.asp>

Department of Transportation <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot/index.html>

Department of Environmental Protection <http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/deatmpl.asp?url=/content/dep/dephome/index.asp>

Department of Permitting Services <http://permitting.montgomerycountymd.gov/DPS/general/Home.aspx>

Montgomery County Volunteer Center <http://www.montgomeryserves.org>

Office of Community Partnerships <http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs100/1102184431012/archive/1117215431562.html>

Commission for Women <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw/index.html>

Parks Department <http://www.montgomeryparks.org>

Planning Department <http://montgomeryplanning.org>